

From: Dan Hitt
To: Shamma, Mike
Date: 9/9/2008 5:20 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: Proposed Rt 840 Intersection
Attachments: Dan Hitt.vcf

The steps to navigate through the SEQR process as recommended by DEC can be found at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/6189.html>

To follow up on our conversation; from the DEC guidance, a SEQR hearing is not mandatory. However, a hearing is recommended.

The notice and procedural requirements can be found at the link noted above. To answer your question, the hearing cannot start sooner than the 15th day following the Notice of Public Hearing. Secondly, "the filing of the Notice of Completion of a Draft EIS starts the public comment period. That period must be a minimum of 30 days, during which all concerned parties are encouraged to offer their comments to the lead agency. The comment period must continue at least 10 days following the close of a public hearing, if one is held." In addition, please note that a 2005 amendment to SEQR requires EIS documents to be posted on a publicly accessible Internet Web site. More info on this requirement can be found at the following link:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/6197.html>

I assume the lead agency has established procedures for compliance with the SEQR requirements and if the Lead Agency proceeds with a Coordinated Review the Region should be able to comply with the requirements as an Involved Agency.

I'll take a look at the letter and let you know tomorrow if I have any thing further to offer.

Dan

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